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693 individually exercise the powers of a magistrate of the first class as provided by the Criminal Courts Ordinance, 1937, and regular sittings are held at Crater, Tawahi and Sheikh Othman.

692 An appeal lies from the Magistrate's Court to the Supreme Court in all criminal cases in which a sentence of imprisonment exceeding one month or fine exceeding Rs. 50 has been passed, and the Supreme Court has also powers of revision.

695 No sentence of death can be passed on a pregnant woman or a person under the age of 16 years.

A youthful offender may be dealt with by placing him on probation, or by discharging him after due admonition, or by delivering him to his parent, guardian or relative, who has executed a bond for his good behaviour, or by fine, or by whipping, or by ordering his detention.

The Courts performed their usual functions throughout the year. On the criminal side there was an increase of cases both in the Supreme Court and in the Magistrates' Courts. In the Lower Courts there was a very considerable increase in petty offences such as infringements of the Port Rules and minor infringements of the Traffic Ordinance and Rules.

[693] Although there were eight professional pleaders in the Colony, in the great majority of civil cases even in the Supreme Court one or both parties appeared in person without a pleader. This fact and the Indian procedure as followed in the Colony whereby every step in pleadings involves an appearance before the Judge causes a great deal of delay. On the criminal side in the Magistrates' Courts similar delay is caused by the fact that a preliminary enquiry has to be made in every case punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months before the accused can be charged and required to plead. This requirement exists irrespective of the facts of any particular case and even though the case is one that may be tried summarily without recording the evidence.

Owing to the increase of work, Government agreed to the appointment of a second magistrate of the first class on a contractual basis.

691 There is a considerable amount of civil litigation in the Colony. During the year 1947, 304 civil suits were filed in the Supreme Court and 328 civil suits were finally decided. Ten applications for civil revision were filed and decided. Twenty-three civil appeals were lodged in the Supreme Court which disposed of all. The miscellaneous proceedings in the Supreme Court included 30 applications concerning guardianship matters, 10 for succession certificates, 58 for heirship certificates, two for letters of administration, one for probate; and excluding execution proceedings and interlocutory applications, there were 22 other applications, making in all 123. The corresponding disposals were 34, 10, 63, 1, 1, and 23 respectively, making in all 132.

Twenty-six estates were in charge of the Supreme Court.

586 All six cases for dissolution of Mohammedan marriages filed during the year were disposed of.

674 Eleven criminal cases were committed to the Supreme Court during 1947 for trial, out of which nine were disposed of during the year and the remaining two were heard and decided in January, 1948.

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The offences in respect of which persons were tried in the Supreme Court were:

*Sessions Accused**Case No. No.**Nature of Charges**Result*

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | Murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code. | Accused 1, 2 and 3 sentenced to death, and accused 4 acquitted.
On appeal, accused 2 and 3 were acquitted, and in the case of accused 1 the conviction was altered to Section 201 of the Indian Penal Code, and sentence to 7 years rigorous imprisonment. |
| 2 | 1 | (1) Murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.
(2) Rash or negligent act not amounting to culpable homicide under Section 304A of the Indian Penal Code. | (1) Acquitted.
(2) Sentenced to two years rigorous imprisonment. |
| 3 | 1 | (1) Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, under Section 304 of the Indian Penal Code.
(2) Grievous hurt under Section 325 of the Indian Penal Code. | (1) Charges under Sections 304 and 325 withdrawn
(2) Sentenced to six months rigorous imprisonment for voluntarily causing hurt under Section 323 of the Indian Penal Code. |
| 4 | 1 | (1) Criminal breach of trust under Section 408 of the Indian Penal Code.
(2) Forgery under Section 465 of the Indian Penal Code.
(3) Falsification of accounts under Section 477A of the Indian Penal Code. | All charges withdrawn and accused discharged |
| 5 | 1 | (1) Voluntarily causing hurt to a public servant under Section 333 of the Indian Penal Code. | Accused acquitted on all the four charges. |

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Sessions.	Accused
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Nature of Charges

Result

(2) Voluntarily causing hurt under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.

(3) Voluntarily causing hurt under Section 332 of the Indian Penal Code.

(4) Resistance or obstruction to lawful apprehension under Section 224 of the Indian Penal Code.

6 1 Culpable homicide not
 amounting to murder
 under Section 304 of
 the Indian Penal Code.

**Convicted and sentenced
to three years rigorous
imprisonment.**

7 1 (1) Voluntarily causing
grievous hurt under
Section 326 of the In-
dian Penal Code.

(1) Convicted and sentenced to ten years rigorous imprisonment.

(2) Voluntarily causing hurt under Section 324 of the Indian Penal Code.

(2) Convicted and sentenced to three years rigorous imprisonment.

(3) Voluntarily causing hurt under Section 324 of the Indian Penal Code.

(3) Convicted and sentenced to three years rigorous imprisonment. Sentences to run concurrently.

8 3. Carnal intercourse against
the order of nature with
a man under Section
377 of the Indian Penal
Code.

All accused acquitted and discharged.

9 4 Mischief causing damage
under Section 427 of
the Indian Penal Code.

On accuseds' application order passed in revision remitting the case for trial by the Divisional Magistrate, Tawahi.

10 2 Robbery under Section
 392 of the Indian Penal
 Code.

No. 1 accused convicted and sentenced to four years rigorous imprisonment.

No. 2 accused acquitted and discharged.

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<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Accused</i>			
<i>Case No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Nature of Charges</i>	<i>Result</i>	
II	I	Murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.	Convicted and sentenced to death.	681 674

At the beginning of 1947 one criminal appeal was pending and during the year 190 others were filed. Thirty-one appeals were allowed and the appellants acquitted or discharged. One appeal was allowed and retrial ordered. In 28 appeals convictions were sustained but the sentences altered. One hundred and seventeen appeals were dismissed and the remaining 14 were pending at the end of the year and disposed of in January, 1948. The average time taken for the disposal of a criminal appeal is about a fortnight from the filing of the memorandum.

Applications for revision on the criminal side totalled 56, of which 21 were dismissed. Convictions were altered but sentences confirmed in five cases. Proceedings were set aside and retrial ordered in three cases; and in 25 cases convictions and sentences were set aside. The remaining two cases were disposed of early in 1948.

In the Small Causes Court 717 suits were filed and 763 were disposed of during the period under review.

The following table contains a classified summary of the criminal cases decided in the Magistrates' Courts in the year 1947:

<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Convictions</i>	<i>Discharged or acquitted</i>
10,619	378	10,997	6,520	4,477

Seven cases involving 15 persons were committed to the Supreme Court

<i>Offences</i>	<i>No. of persons</i>
Offences punishable under Motor Traffic Ordinance and Rules	2,394
Voluntarily causing hurt	264
Assault	298
Other offences against the person	111
Theft	370
Other offences against property	214
Insult	248
Affray	360
Other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code	376
Offences punishable under the Police Ordinance	1,937
Offences punishable under the Township Rules	738
Offences punishable under other laws including Port Rules	3,683
Offences punishable under the Cruelty to Animals Rules	4
TOTAL	10,997

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681 The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows:

Imprisonment with or without fine	928
Whipping	23
Fine only	5,513

691 Four hundred and fifty-seven applications for maintenance were made in the magistrates' Courts. In 306 cases orders for maintenance were granted, and in the remaining cases maintenance was disallowed.

692 The magistrates are required to submit monthly returns of the criminal cases decided in their courts on the same lines as in East Africa. This system has kept the Supreme Court in close touch with the current work of the Magistrates' Courts and enables due supervision to be effected. Magistrates are also required to submit to the Supreme Court for inspection the record of any case in which a sentence of corporal punishment is awarded.

REGISTRATION

647 The Registration Department is in charge of the Registrar of Documents, who is also Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the Colony of Aden.

[693] During the year under review, His Honour the Judge of the Supreme Court was in charge of the offices referred to above.

Registration of Testamentary and Non-Testamentary Documents

The total number of documents presented during 1947 was 443.

Thirty applications for copies, searches and inspections were received, and disposed of. The number of visits paid by the Sub-Registrar to private residences was 39.

Registration of Firms

Nineteen applications for registration of firms under the Partnership Ordinance, 1939, were received.

Bills of Exchange

The total number of Bills of Exchange noted and protested under the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1941, was 30.

Income

651 The total income from registration documents and firms and notarial charges was Rs. 7,984.

POLICE

674 Serious crime remained about the same as in the previous year. The acid-throwing attack in August, 1947, on the Matron of the Civil Hospital,

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674 reported in detail under "Other Serious Crime" below, is still under active Police investigation. It was the third case of this sort in 1947. In the other cases offenders were arrested and sentenced to heavy terms of imprisonment.

[685] The number of petty offences brought before the Courts increased. This increase was largely due to Police action in prosecuting beggars and persons causing obstructions. Thefts in the harbour increased during the first half of the year, but the energetic application of the new Port Rules began to bear fruit and a substantial drop in these offences resulted.

167 The question of deportations of undesirables continued to be a difficult problem for the Police, owing to the absence of effective frontier control. A large number of Yemen Arabs were deported and an almost equally large number re-deported. A number of Yemeni Jews were also deported to the Yemen by sea.

625 The strength of the Armed Police was maintained up to the authorised establishment of 250. Detachments of Armed Police were maintained at Kamaran and Perim.

The Civil Police strength was maintained up to establishment; health and discipline were good and the number of men who passed written examinations and thus gained proficiency pay was satisfactory.

Criminal Investigation Department

647 The department was in charge of a Senior Superintendent. Continuity of command could not be maintained, however, owing to leave requirements, and the department had to function under various officers. Changes had also to be effected in the clerical staff and as a result organisation was somewhat slowed down. It was possible, however, to open a C.R.O. system for criminals and deportees and it is most satisfactory to note that 285 C.R.O. files were opened during the year and 249 criminals and/or deportees photographed.

678 There were two cases of homicide which required supervision and assistance, and a case of inflicted grievous harm; these cases are more fully described on page 41.

Indexes continue to be built up and expanded.

For a period in December the department had virtually to close down owing to the paramount need for concentrating the whole of the available staff on the immediate task of quelling the riots.

674 The total number of cases registered under the Indian Penal Code was 1,333, as against 1,122 in 1946, and 1,010 in 1945; an increase of 111 cases in 1947 over 1946. A very large portion of the increase is represented by charges made before the close of the year in connection with the December riots, hence the true increase in Penal Code offences is very small indeed and it is most satisfactory that this should be so.

A total of 4,754 cases were also dealt with by Police under local ordinances and minor acts.

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674 The following table shows the incidence of crime in the different Station areas during 1945-46 (left-hand columns) and 1946-47 (right-hand columns):

	Harbour		Tawahi		Maalla		Crater		Sheikh Othman	
1. Homicide and attempted murder	—	—	3	6	—	—	—	—	1	16
2. Rape	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	2	3
3. Unnatural offences	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—
4. Other offences against person	9	4	13	24	17	28	26	21	42	34
5. Malicious damage to property	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	1	1
6. House-breaking	2	2	62	52	37	44	99	126	59	40
7. Criminal and house trespass	1	1	2	11	8	1	10	9	10	8
8. Other offences against property	105	61	191	128	110	199	161	194	123	154
9. Other L.P.C. Offences	—	4	—	24	9	7	3	11	1	13
10. Offences against Local Minor Acts	1,135	1,854	329	261	887	457	1,410	828	365	1,354
Total	1,388	1,927	603	507	1,068	741	1,713	1,190	603	1,622

Of the total of 1,233 offences under the Indian Penal Code, 684 were brought before the Court, 469 cases were closed as undetected and 80 cases were pending in Court or under investigation at the close of the year. As will be seen from the preceding table, there was a slight rise in offences against property (736 as against 690 in 1946), but this was almost entirely due to offences connected with the rioting.

[579] The total value of property reported stolen excluding that reported as a result of the riots was Rs. 1,97,820 against Rs. 2,85,370 in 1946 and Rs. 2,00,041 in 1945. Property to the value of Rs. 47,865 was recovered; this is just under 25 per cent. which, considering the ease with which stolen property can be disposed of, is not unsatisfactory.

The table of cases does not reflect those cases taken under the Civil Supplies Ordinance, the figures in respect of which are as follows:

Total number of cases	25
Total sentences of imprisonment	2
Total value of fines inflicted	Rs. 9,270
Total value of goods confiscated.	Rs. 6,088.10.0

The fall in this class of offence, as against 1946, is due to the almost complete cancellation of regulations governing the export from the Colony of the main classes of goods which were restricted in 1946.

Homicide

579 674 Of the total number of cases (23) first registered as murder 20 were opened in respect of Jews killed during the December riots and at the end of the year were still under enquiry. Of the other two cases one was registered at Sheikh Othman and the other at Tawahi.

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In January an Arab driving a truck on a desert track near Sheikh Othman knocked down and killed a Jew. The Supreme Court found him guilty of causing death by negligence and the accused was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

On 13th September, 1947, an Arab succani of the vessel *El-Hak* had a quarrel with another Arab on the Messageries Maritimes Pier and in the course of the quarrel produced a revolver, fired 3 rounds and fatally wounded the other Arab. He subsequently fired at and wounded one of a number of coolies who tried to arrest him and was finally captured after attempting to swim to his ship. He was convicted of murder and sentenced to death. This case affords an instance, rare in Aden, of members of the public acting on their own initiative to assist the authorities.

The Imad murder case, referred to in the 1946 Annual Report, was tried by the Supreme Court, and on 23rd April, 1947, three of the accused were found guilty and sentenced to death; one accused was acquitted. There was an appeal to the High Court of Bombay and in September it was announced that the sentences for murder had been quashed. The principal accused was sentenced to 7 years rigorous imprisonment and the other two were acquitted.

Other Serious Crime

On the evening of Sunday, 17th August, 1947, the Matron of the Civil Hospital was attacked at the gateway to her house by an assailant who threw a quantity of acid into her face. The Assistant Superintendent of Police in Crater was on the scene within a few minutes of the incident and investigation continued throughout the night. These investigations were severely handicapped by lack of witnesses.

A reward of Rs. 5,000 was offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the accused, and the co-operation of Chiefs in the Western Aden Protectorate area was requested and also Muslim religious and social leaders in Aden Colony. Information was eventually received that the person believed to have perpetrated this outrage had taken refuge in a neighbouring territory, but it has not yet been possible to obtain his arrest.

Fire-Fighting Duties

Police continued to be responsible for fire-fighting duties in the Colony. The number of fires reported and dealt with by the Police during 1947 is as follows:

Tawahi	2	Estimated damage . . .	Rs. 9,000
Maalla	4	"	Rs. 700
Crater	3	"	Rs. 2,025
Sheikh Othman	5	"	Rs. 2,300

These figures do not include buildings destroyed or damaged during the December, 1947, riots.

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691 The Supreme Court which disposed of 23 such appeals in 1948, three were decided in 1949 and two are still pending. The miscellaneous proceedings in the Supreme Court included 50 applications concerning guardianship matters, 11 applications for succession certificates, 65 applications for heirship certificates, 12 applications for letters of administration, three applications for probate and there were 58 other applications, excluding execution proceedings and interlocutory applications, making in all 199. The corresponding disposals were 46, 11, 63, 12, 3 and 43 respectively, making in all 178.

586 Eighteen estates were in charge of the Supreme Court.

Twelve cases for dissolution of Mohammedan marriages were filed during the year. Five were decided and seven are still pending.

674 Four criminal cases were committed to the Supreme Court for trial, out of which three were disposed of during the year and the remaining one was heard and decided in January, 1949.

The offences in respect of which persons were tried in the Supreme Court were:

Sessions case No.	Accused No.	Nature of charges	Result
1	1. Gabber Abdulla Al-Baderi. 2. Mohamed Ahmed Al-Haidi. 3. Nasser Attick Abdo Badi.	Murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.	Accused 1 sentenced to 12 months' rigorous imprisonment for voluntarily causing hurt contrary to section 323 of the I.P.C. Accused 2 acquitted. Accused 3 acquitted.
2	Mohamed Galleh Awad Somali.	Murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.	Accused sentenced to penal servitude for life for culpable homicide not amounting to murder under Section 304 of the Indian Penal Code.
3	Khaled Salem Mubarak.	Culpable homicide not amounting to murder under Section 304 of the Indian Penal Code.	Nolle prosequi entered. Accused discharged.
4	Mohamed Abdulla Sanani.	Attempt to commit carnal intercourse against the nature of law under Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code.	do.

At the beginning of 1948, 14 criminal appeals were pending and during the year 294 others were filed. Of these, 233 were dismissed, retrial was ordered in two appeals, 43 appeals were allowed and in 30 appeals convictions were sustained but the sentences were altered. No appeal was left pending at the end of the year. The average time taken for the disposal of a criminal appeal is about a fortnight from the filing of the memorandum.

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Applications for revision on the criminal side totalled 19, of which 10 were dismissed. In eight cases convictions and sentences were set aside and appellants acquitted. In one case the conviction was altered and sentence reduced.

In the Small Causes Court 896 suits were filed and 853, including 20 cases of the previous year, were disposed of during the period under review.

The following table contains a classified summary of the criminal cases decided in the Magistrate's Courts in the year 1948:

Number of Persons

<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Convictions</i>	<i>Discharged or acquitted</i>
11,666	722	12,388	6,804	5,584

Four cases involving six persons were committed to the Supreme Court.

*Offences**No. of persons*

<i>Offences punishable under Motor Traffic Ordinance and Rules</i>		
Voluntarily causing hurt		3,801
Assault		242
Other offences against the person		287
Theft		603
Other offences against property		340
Insult		149
Affray		395
Other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code		419
Offences punishable under the Police Ordinance		625
Offences punishable under the Township Rules		3,081
Offences punishable under other laws including Port Rules		1,118
Offences punishable under the Cruelty to Animals Rules		1,320
		8
TOTAL		12,388

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Courts of the Magistrates were as follows:

Imprisonment with or without fine	1,161
Whipping	30
Fine only	4,799

Five hundred and sixty-one applications for maintenance were made in the Magistrates' Courts. In 320 cases orders for maintenance were granted, and in the remaining cases, maintenance was disallowed.

The Magistrates are required to submit monthly returns of the criminal cases decided in their courts on the same lines as in East Africa. This system has kept the Supreme Court in closer touch with the current work of the Magistrates' Courts and enables closer supervision to be

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625 police duties, the protection of persons and property, and the prevention and detection of crime. They also police the very important and busy harbour of Aden. The Criminal Investigation Department is responsible for the investigation of serious crime, special branch work, immigration, the issue of passports and the deportation of undesirables and vagrants. 494 In addition, the Police undertake the registration of motor vehicles, the issue of driving licences and the control and issue of permits to public service vehicles.

625 The Armed Police are a semi-military armed force and are responsible for the maintenance of internal security. They provide guards where necessary and escorts for prisoners. They are trained and organised to provide an immediate striking force in the event of internal disturbances. They also provide garrisons for the Islands of Perim and Kamaran.

674 Criminal cases for the year 1948 showed a decrease of 344 as compared with the year 1947, a decrease in Penal Code offences of almost 33½ per cent. This decrease may be considered exceptionally high, but the figures for 1947 were swollen by cases arising from the 1947 riots. However, there has been a distinct drop in Penal Code offences in the year under review by comparison with the years 1946 and 1945 and it is considered that the reduction is largely due to the implementation in 1947-48 of a closer degree of control over expelled undesirables and the readier detection of them on their return to the Colony. In 1948 there were 522 cases of offences against property compared with 736 such cases in 1947. The total value of property stolen was Rs. 234,644 of which property to the value of Rs. 119,439 (just over 50 per cent) was recovered. 691

685 During the year under review a total of 5,991 cases was also dealt with by Police under local Ordinances. This shows an increase over the year 1947, but is largely due to the fact that more energetic action has been taken by Police in the matter of dealing with beggars, street vendors and other minor offenders.

PRISON.

697 Dr. N. M. Hodivalla, O.B.E., part-time Superintendent, proceeded to India on leave, in October, 1948, and charge of the Prison till the end of the year was taken over by the Jailer.

The Aden Prison is the only Prison in the Colony, and therefore receives all classes of convicted offenders, in addition to persons committed to trial, and deportees and vagrants awaiting deportation.

Approximately 80 per cent of convicted prisoners are from the Yemen, the Protectorate, and other territories. The administration follows closely, modified where desirable by local conditions, the practice adopted in India.

The prison buildings are situated in a walled compound which ensures complete segregation from the general public. They consist of widely spaced and well-ventilated dormitories, cells, workrooms, store-rooms, kitchens, hospital and office.

Extension to the present office, construction of a range of six superior individual cells for "A" and "B" class prisoners, five cells for the accommodation of lunatic prisoners, and compound walls to four prison

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The Armed Police is a semi-military force and is responsible for the maintenance of internal security. They provide guards where necessary and escorts for prisoners. They are trained and organised to provide an immediate striking force in the event of internal disorders. They also provide garrisons for the Islands of Perim and Kamaran. 625

Recruiting to maintain the Force up to strength has continued satisfactorily. Unfortunately the standard of literacy in the Force has remained low, as literate candidates do not present themselves for recruitment. The training of recruits in elementary English has continued.

There was an improvement in living conditions with the completion of new barracks in the Armed Police Lines and the construction of a new Police station, inspectors' quarters, and men's quarters at Khormaksar. In due course it is hoped that every member of the Force will be adequately housed. 653

The total number of cases registered under the Indian Penal Code was 711 in 1949 and 816 in 1950, compared with 889 in 1948 and 1,233 in 1947. There were 423 cases of offences against property in 1949 and 531 in 1950. The total value of property stolen was Rs. 91,684 in 1949 and Rs. 302,549 in 1950, of which property to the value of Rs. 19,461 and Rs. 25,324 respectively was recovered. 674

During 1949 and 1950 the numbers of cases dealt with by Police under local Ordinances were 4,704 and 7,826.

The volume of work in the Immigration Department has increased considerably since the implementation of the Immigration Rules in May, 1950. This has been largely due to the documentation involved under the new rules and the increased vigilance required to detect persons who have overstayed the validity of their permits. 625
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PRISON

There was a considerable drop in the prison population in 1949 and 1950, the daily average number fell from 330 in 1948 to 157 in 1950—a drop of 48 per cent. Seventy-eight per cent of the convicted prisoners were from the Yemen and other neighbouring territories. 674

Consequent upon the drop in the prison population the prison officers were better able to carry out their duties which resulted in better discipline, fewer punishments and greater output in prison industries. 697

In spite of the smaller number of convicted prisoners (mostly on short terms) engaged on remunerative works, excellent progress has been made with the prison industries resulting in a very substantial increase in the revenue from the sales of manufactured articles. These industries are more than self-supporting and give a good training to the prisoners.

In 1950, two long-term prisoners, sent by the Mukalla Government for training, were taught all branches of the weaving and cane industries.

The Labour and Welfare Officer visited the prison on various occasions in connection with juvenile offenders and probation work.

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000 which provided mainly for the better enforcing of discipline in the Force.

652 The General Loan and Stock Ordinance (No. 20 of 1952), which set out the terms and conditions under which loans may be raised by the Government of Aden Colony under separate legislation and provided for the creation of Aden Colony stock. It is similar in form to legislation passed in other Colonies.

The General Local Loan Ordinance (No. 21 of 1952), which set out the terms and conditions under which loans may be raised locally in the Colony by the issue of debentures by the Government of the Colony under separate legislation. It is similar in form to legislation passed in other Colonies.

The Trustee Investment in Aden Government Securities Ordinance (No. 22 of 1952), which provided safeguards to facilitate the investment of trust and other funds in the United Kingdom in Aden Government securities.

871 The Education Ordinance (No. 23 of 1952), which made provision for control of education in the Colony. This legislation was necessitated by the expansion of both Government and private education.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

692 Aden Colony has a Supreme Court with unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court. Appeals from the Supreme Court are heard by Her Majesty's Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa.

There are subordinate civil and criminal courts. Subordinate civil business is transacted by the Court of Small Causes. This Court is presided over by the Chief Magistrate, who is the Judge of the Small Causes Court, assisted by one of the other two Magistrates as additional Judge. In addition, there are Magistrate's Courts at Crater, Tawahi and Sheikh Othman.

671 The criminal system of law is based on that of India, modified by local ordinances. The Indian Penal Code is in force in the Colony.

691 The commonest type of litigation is that between landlord and tenant under the Aden Rent Restriction Ordinance and the majority of the suits under this head are claims by landlords for possession against their tenants.

674 The numbers of the civil and criminal cases filed in the Courts of the Colony during the years 1951 and 1952 were as follows :

Supreme Court

	1951	1952
Original Criminal	3	5
Criminal Appeals	77	123
Criminal Revision	22	15
Original Civil	476	566
Civil Appeals	19	22

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS

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In addition the Supreme Court disposed of a large number of matters dealing with personal status where in the case of Muslims Sharia Law is applied. 674
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Magistrates' Courts

	1951	1952
Criminal Cases	10,172	9,262
Civil Cases	758	840

POLICE .

Establishment

The responsibility for the maintenance of law and order within the Colony and the islands of Perim and Kamaran is vested in a Commissioner of Police and the following was the approved establishment of his Force for 1952 : 625

	Officers	Ch. Inspectors, Inspectors & Sub-Insps.	Cadets	Other Ranks
Civil Police	8	20	4	369
Armed Police	2	12	—	321
Little Aden Refinery detachment	14	18	—	112
Total Establishment	24	50	4	802

The Civil Police are employed on the prevention and detection of crime. The Armed Police is a task force and is available for any duties which are outside the scope of the Civil Police. Civil Police are trained in normal police duties but the Armed Police are trained more as soldiers than policemen.

Approval was given in the latter part of the year for the provision of additional police for the Aden Petroleum Refinery project at Little Aden where over 10,000 people of all races are expected to be employed during construction, which started in November, 1952, and is expected to continue for about two and a half years.

Organisation

The Colony is divided into four Police Divisions each under the command of a Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Police with Chief Inspectors or Inspectors in charge of Police Stations.

The Commissioner deals with Divisions direct assisted by a Deputy Commissioner, who is responsible for the administration of the Force, and a Superintendent who is responsible for crime investigation and collection of intelligence.

The Armed Police occupy barracks strategically situated in the old town of Crater. They are commanded by a Superintendent who is responsible for their administration, discipline and training, assisted by an Assistant Superintendent. The Armed Police provide detachments for duty on the islands of Kamaran and Perim.

Recruitment and Training

Vacancies in the rank of constable are filled mainly by recruiting either local Arabs or Arabs from the Protectorate. The training course lasts for three months.

42

ADEN COLONY

625 212 The standard of literacy is very low and many of the recruits can neither read nor write Arabic. Only a few are able to read and write simple English. Evening schools were started in June, 1952, by arrangement with the Director of Education who provided teachers and allowed the use of classrooms at three schools.

Athletics were revived and a very good meeting was held in December, 1952.

CRIME

SERIOUS AND MINOR CASES IN 1952.

674

Offences under the Indian Penal Code	Cases Reported	Taken to Court	Convicted	Under Investigation	No. of Juveniles Convicted
Homicide	3	1	1	1	—
Other offences against the person :					
(a) Attempted Murder	2	2	2	—	—
(b) Rape and unlawful carnal knowledge	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Unnatural offences	7	4	4	—	—
(d) Other offences	191	158	116	10	5
Malicious injury to property	5	2	2	—	—
Other offences against property (other than praedial larceny and malicious injury to property) :					
(a) Theft	717	347	264	38	25
(b) House-breaking	186	63	49	4	5
(c) Criminal & house trespass	42	28	23	3	—
(d) Other	255	121	106	3	2
TOTAL	1,409	727	567	59	37
Minor Acts	5,429	5,229	3,589	14	18

1952 saw an increase of 33 per cent in serious crime compared with 1951. The rise in crime coincided with an apparent very marked increase in the population. Thefts rose by 43 per cent and house breakings by 34 per cent.

368 Other Police Duties

625 Fire Fighting. Twelve fires were attended and dealt with by the police.

167 Immigration and Passports. There was an increase in 1952 of 30 per cent in the number of immigrants as compared with 1951. Seven hundred and four new entry permits were issued and over 19,000 people were dealt with by the Immigration Officers. Over 10,770 people left the Colony.

486 The number of travel documents issued in 1952 was 4,250, an increase of 60 per cent over the previous year. The work increased to such an extent that it was found necessary to employ an officer on full-time duty from August, 1952.